



SDAE



2009 Student Discipline and Alternative Education Institute

Sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Education and the UT Law Enforcement Innovation Center

Hotel: Hilton Nashville (Downtown)

Location: Nashville, TN

Dates: February 17th and 18th

Conference Theme: *It's All Connected*



In collaboration with the Department of Education's Office of General Counsel, the Office of School Safety and Learning Support and the UT Law Enforcement Innovation Center present the **2009 Student Discipline and Alternative Education (SDAE) Institute**. The conference will be held in Nashville on February 17th and 18th. The registration fee for the conference is \$99.00, which will include breakfast and lunch on both days. There will also be an evening reception on February 17th sponsored by *Ombudsman Educational Services of America*. The downtown Hilton will be hosting the Institute. Hotel reservations should be made by contacting the Hilton at (615) 620-1000. *Please be sure to indicate you are with the Department of Education's SDAE Institute when making reservations and to receive the state rate. The reservation code is (UTN).* State rates for lodging are currently \$117.00 for Nashville.

The conference will promote proactive approaches to dealing with student discipline, as well as legal and procedural issues/practices related to the field. This will include an in-depth training on how to conduct a disciplinary hearing and provide due process prior to making a disciplinary decision regarding suspension or expulsion. Exemplary practices in alternative education will also be explored. Experts in the field of educational law, student discipline, social and emotional learning, and alternative education will provide a wide variety of breakout sessions for participants. *Included you will find a **TENTATIVE** list of breakout sessions and topic areas- a final list will be provided in the participant's notebook at the conference.* SDAE is appropriate for educators who are interested in and committed to best practices in student discipline, alternative education and social and emotional learning. **Twelve hours of TASL credit will be available to interested participants at the conference.**

For more information **regarding the Institute** contact Lori Ungurait at (615) 253-6382 or via email to lori.ungurait@tennessee.edu.





**Student Discipline and Alternative Education Institute
2009 Registration Form**



ATTENDEE INFORMATION:

Name & Title: _____

Organization/School: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

GROUP INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE):

For group registrants, please submit (1) form per attendee. Provide a group name (above) on every form and submit all forms together. Please include all registration fees or a copy of the purchase order.

CONFERENCE FEE RATE- \$99 PER PERSON

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

Method of Payment (Please Choose One): Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

☐ Check Enclosed (Payable to University of Tennessee)

☐ Bill School or Dept. (Purchase Order #) _____ (Please Provide Copy of PO)

☐ Bill to MasterCard or Visa Card _____ Exp. Date: _____

Billing Address: _____

Signature: _____

Print Name Exactly As It Appears On Card: _____

OUR INFORMATION:

Mail: SDAE Institute 2009
University of Tennessee
226 Capitol Blvd #214
Nashville, TN 37219

Fax: (615) 253-6343
Email: lori.ungurait@tennessee.edu
Web: www.leic.tennessee.edu
Phone: (615) 253-6382

CANCELATION POLICY:

Please submit cancellation in writing to receive a refund less a \$25 per person service charge. Sorry, no refunds after February 9, 2009 (substitutions are encouraged).

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION:

For Title VI and Title IX compliance, we ask for voluntary disclosure of the following information:

Gender (Please Check One): ☐ Male ☐ Female

Race (Please Check One):: ☐ African-American ☐ Asian ☐ American Indian

☐ Caucasian ☐ Hispanic

☐ Other _____

☐ UT seeks to accommodate all persons with disabilities. If you require auxiliary aids, special services, dietary concerns, or other accommodations, please check this box. Someone from our office will contact you.



Student Discipline and Alternative Education Institute
Hotel Accommodations
ROOM RESERVATION CODE (UTN)



Hilton Nashville (Downtown)

121 4th Avenue South, Nashville, Tennessee, United States 37201
Tel: 1-615-620-1000 Fax: 1-615-620-2050

Directions & Transportation

All interstates (I-65, I-40, I-24) merge to the downtown area.

From I-40E & I-24E exit #210/US-31 A South/US-41 South. Right on 2nd Avenue South, left on Korean Veterans Blvd, Right on 4th Avenue- Hotel on left.

From I-65S, exit #209A/Broadway - continue .7 miles, right on 4th Avenue, Hotel on right.

From I-40W, exit #209B/Broadway- continue .7 miles, right on 4th Avenue, Hotel on right.

Hotel Policies

Check-In: 3:00 PM / Check-Out: 12:00 PM

Hotel Website:

http://www1.hilton.com/en_US/hi/hotel/BNANSHF-Hilton-Nashville-Downtown-Tennessee/index.do



Institute Workshop Schedule
Conference Theme: It's All Connected



February 17th	Strand: Student Discipline, the Law, and Social and Emotional Learning
7:30AM-8:30AM	Networking Breakfast in the Volunteer Ballroom/Registration Opens
8:30AM-9:45AM	Opening General Session in the Volunteer Ballroom <i>The Essentials: An Educator's Legal Toolkit for Student Discipline</i> <i>Keynote Presenter: Christy Ballard, Tennessee Department of Education</i>
9:45AM-10:00AM	Break
10:00AM-11:15AM	Session I Breakout
11:15AM-12:30PM	Lunch in the Volunteer Ballroom <i>Miss Tennessee Meet and Greet Outside the Volunteer Ballroom</i> <i>Ellen Carrington, Miss Tennessee 2008</i>
12:30PM-1:45PM	Session II Breakout
1:45PM-2:00PM	Break
2:00PM-3:15PM	Session III Breakout
3:15PM-3:30PM	Break
3:30PM-4:45PM	Session IV Breakout
6:00PM-8:00PM	Reception/ Networking Session in the MarketStreet Restaurant (Light refreshments and hors d'oeuvre will be served) <i>Reception Sponsored By:</i>





Institute Workshop Schedule
Conference Theme: It's All Connected



February 18th Strand: Alternative Education

7:30AM-8:30AM Networking Breakfast in the Volunteer Ballroom

8:30AM-9:45AM Opening General Session in the Volunteer Ballroom

Changing the Challenging Child

Lori Lamb, Arkansas Department of Education

Keynote Sponsored By:

NAEA

National Alternative Education Association

9:45AM-10:00AM Break

10:00AM-11:15AM Session V Breakout

11:15AM-11:30AM Hotel Check Out

11:30AM-1:00PM Lunch in the Volunteer Ballroom

Student Presentation at 12:15PM

Smyrna West Alternative Students

1:00PM-2:15PM Session VI Breakout

2:15PM- 2:30PM Break

2:30PM-3:45PM Session VII Breakout

Tours of Metro-Nashville Public Schools' Ombudsman alternative education sites will be available to interested participants. Two site visits will be conducted- one during Session V and one during Session VI. Participants who are interested in visiting the programs must sign up for one of the tours in advance. Reservations may be made by contacting Gina Lindsey of Ombudsman Educational Services via email to glindsey@esa-education.com or calling (615) 577-5671.



Keynote Presenters and Session Information

(February 17th and 18th)

Conference Theme: It's All Connected

8:30AM-9:45AM

February 17th Opening Keynote

Session Title:

The Essentials: An Educator's Legal Toolkit for Student Discipline

Presenter:

Christy Ballard, J.D., Tennessee Department of Education

Session Synopsis:

The opening session will cover a broad range of legal issues regarding school discipline- an educator's legal toolkit for discipline. Issues ranging from the importance of drafting legally sound school discipline policies to the practice of actually implementing those policies will be addressed as elements of the "toolkit." Furthermore, the presenter will provide a practical, relevant overview of state and federal laws authorizing and requiring local education agencies to prohibit certain types of student behavior. Finally, an in-depth look at the Due Process Clause and its impact on the legal rights of students will be examined. By the end of the session, participants should have a basic understanding of student discipline as it relates to the law.

Speaker Bio:

Christy Ballard has been a licensed attorney since 1995 and has served as the General Counsel for the Tennessee Department of Education for the past 5 years. As chief legal officer for an agency with over one thousand six hundred employees and only two other full time attorneys, she advises the Commissioner and Department personnel as well as superintendents of the four state special schools on all legal issues. Ms. Ballard is also called upon to respond to legal questions from local school board attorneys, other state agency staff, legislators, local school officials, teachers and the general public by providing general information and interpretations of the law.

Prior to becoming the General Counsel, Ms. Ballard was a staff attorney with the Department of Education for two years where she served as Director of the Office of Legal Services in the Special Education Division. While working for the Special Education Division, she was responsible for the oversight of the special education dispute resolution process, answered legal questions related to special education law and conducted training for school systems and other organizations across the state.

Prior to coming to the Tennessee Department of Education, Ms. Ballard served as staff attorney for the Tennessee School Boards Association (TSBA) where she provided legal support to local boards of education and school officials, represented TSBA in the Tennessee General Assembly, conducted legal presentations at TSBA workshops and conventions, edited the *Tennessee School Lawyer* and wrote articles on law and education-related topics for TSBA publications. Other

previous experience includes working for Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corporation. Ms. Ballard holds a B.A. and J.D. from the University of Memphis.

Contact Information:
Room:

christy.ballard@state.tn.us
Volunteer Ballroom

8:30AM-9:45AM

Session Title:

Presenter:

Session Synopsis:

February 18th Opening Keynote
Changing the Challenging Child

Lori Lamb, Arkansas Department of Education

Techniques will be demonstrated to help educators and other professionals provide meaningful and appropriate interventions. Often, students appear to enjoy challenging the system by "interpreting" issues to their benefit. Skillful opportunities and real world examples will be shared on when and how to redirect the "independent thinker." Furthermore, the session will demonstrate how "choices" can empower and greatly benefit the challenging child. Organizations, linkages, and support services for dealing with challenging students will also be shared, including resources on dropout prevention. Student stories of success will highlight how the strategies have changed lives.

Speaker Bio:

Lori Lamb is the *Director of Alternative Education* for the Arkansas Department of Education. She is also *Vice-President* of the National Alternative Education Association (NAEA). Lori has been an educator for over twenty years in Texas, North Carolina, and Arkansas. She has had the privilege of teaching elementary through high school in the areas of general education, special education, and nontraditional education. She has multiple certification areas and has been recognized as *Texas Teacher of the Year*. Lori was also nominated for the prestigious Disney Hand Award. Recently, Mrs. Lamb was invited to participate in an international round table of experts concerning nontraditional education. More recently, Lori was appointment by Governor Beebe to the Pygmalion Commission for Nontraditional Education.

Lori and her husband Pat have worked with challenging youth by operating multiple group homes when living in San Antonio, Texas. They have been foster parents to multiple children and remained involved through numerous outreach projects to youth for more than twenty five years. Lori proudly enjoys her lifelong passion of working with at-risk youth by seeing them succeed and make a difference in the world around us.

Contact Information:
Room:

lori.lamb@arkansas.gov
Volunteer Ballroom

Special Thanks:

A very special thanks to Kay Davenport, staff, and the students of Smyrna West Alternative for their presentation. Also, a special thanks to Miss Tennessee for her attendance at the conference. SDAE would also not be possible without the support and hard work of the Tennessee Department of Education and the UT Law Enforcement Innovation Center staff. A very special thanks to Mark Claypool, President and Chief Executive Officer of Educational Services of America and Ombudsman for sponsoring the evening reception. Finally, we are very grateful to the NAEA for sponsoring our keynote speaker, Lori Lamb.

SDAE
(TENTATIVE) Breakout Schedule (February 17th)
Strand: Student Discipline, the Law, and Social and Emotional Learning
Conference Theme: It's All Connected

10:00AM-11:15AM Session I Breakouts (February 17th)

Session Title: ***Preventing Sexual Harassment: Protecting Our Children and Ourselves***
Presenter: Lesley Farmer, J.D., Tennessee Department of Education
Session Synopsis: Most school systems have developed policies and procedures for responding to faculty and staff incidents of sexual harassment. Few LEAs have strategies for dealing with student-to-student incidents. This session will provide participants with an overview of current case law related to sexual harassment, outline the responsibilities of schools and educators and identify prevention and intervention strategies to deal proactively with student-to-student sexual harassment. Participants will receive a trainer's guide and video to assist with training and implementation.
Room: Robertson

Session Title: ***An Overview of School-Wide Positive Behavior Support***
Presenter: Sheri Keel, Partnerships for EdExcellence
Session Synopsis: School-wide positive behavior support (SWPBS) is a systems approach for establishing the social culture and behavioral supports needed for schools to be safe and effective learning environments for all students. SWPBS focuses on a three-tier model of teaching and prevention that includes primary preventions for all students, secondary interventions for students considered at risk of failure, and tertiary interventions for students whom primary and secondary interventions were insufficient and who exhibit extreme and/or chronic patterns of problem behavior. Four critical elements of SWPBS include: (a) valued outcomes of academic achievement and social competence for all students, (b) data-based decision making at multiple levels, (c) evidence-based prevention, intervention, and reaction strategies, and (d) efficient systems and procedures to support adults to implement research validated practices. This workshop provides participants with an overview of SWPBS and current efforts in TN schools and school districts.
Room: Donelson

Session Title: ***Assessing Student Threats of Violence***
Presenter: Dr. Ken Strong, Memphis City Schools
Session Synopsis: Understanding and preventing youth violence is a concern for all administrators and other personnel working in schools. The FBI, in a 2000 report on school violence stated, "Although the risk of an actual shooting incident at any one school is very low, once a threat is made,

having a fair, rational, and standardized method of evaluating and responding to threats is critically important.” It is especially important that a school not deal with threats by simply kicking the problem out the door. Disciplinary action alone, unaccompanied by any effort to evaluate the threat or the student’s intent, may actually exacerbate the danger. In this session, Dr. Ken Strong will discuss how the threat assessment process developed as a violence prevention procedure for schools.

Room: Ryman 2

Session Title:

Discipline and Students with Disabilities

Presenter:

Bill Wilson, J.D., Tennessee Department of Education

Session Synopsis:

This workshop will cover disciplining of children under the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*. Topics will include suspensions, long term removals, changes of placement, manifestation determinations, weapons, drugs, serious bodily injury, isolation and restraint, law enforcement, and juvenile court petitions. The presenter will also allow time for participants to ask questions related to the topic at hand.

Room: Ryman 3

Session Title:

Searches in Schools: Fourth and Fourteenth Amendment Considerations

Presenter:

Charles W. Cagle, J.D., Lewis, King, Krieg & Waldrop, P.C.

Session Synopsis:

The focus of this presentation will revolve around student searches within the school setting. Fourth and Fourteenth ammendment issues will also be discussed during the session. Additionally, the presenter will talk about the confiscation of electronic devices during a search and the legal implications of doing so. The presenter will also allow time for questions from institute attendees.

Room: McKissack 1

Session Title:

Student Hearings: Legal Procedures for the New Administrator

Presenter:

Randy Bennett, J.D., Tennessee School Boards Association

Session Synopsis:

One of the more difficult tasks for new administrators is maintaining discipline among the student populations while respecting due process guaranteed to students under the law. This session will take a look at how to best conduct a student disciplinary hearing while maintaining the delicate balance between the needs of the district and the rights of the student. The presenter will also allow time for participants to ask questions related to how to conduct a hearing.

Room: McKissack 2

12:30PM-1:45PM

Session II Breakouts (February 17th)

Session Title:

Children & Adolescents with Sexual Behavior Problems: Risks vs. Myths

Session Synopsis:

Tarah M. Kuhn, Ph.D., Vanderbilt Mental Health Center

This workshop will examine the issue of children and adolescents with sexual behavior problems. The presenter will identify myths typically associated with these students as well as the legitimate risks which

they may pose in a school setting. Treatment and other behavior support/risk management options will be explored.
Robertson

Room:

Session Title:

Presenter:

Session Synopsis:

An Overview of School-Wide Positive Behavior Support

Sheri Keel, Partnerships for EdExcellence

School-wide positive behavior support (SWPBS) is a systems approach for establishing the social culture and behavioral supports needed for schools to be safe and effective learning environments for all students. SWPBS focuses on a three-tier model of teaching and prevention that includes primary preventions for all students, secondary interventions for students considered at risk of failure, and tertiary interventions for students whom primary and secondary interventions were insufficient and who exhibit extreme and/or chronic patterns of problem behavior. Four critical elements of SWPBS include: (a) valued outcomes of academic achievement and social competence for all students, (b) data-based decision making at multiple levels, (c) evidence-based prevention, intervention, and reaction strategies, and (d) efficient systems and procedures to support adults to implement research validated practices. This workshop provides participants with an overview of SWPBS and current efforts in TN schools and school districts.

Room:

Donelson

Session Title:

Presenter:

Session Synopsis:

Assessing Student Threats of Violence

Dr. Ken Strong, Memphis City Schools

Understanding and preventing youth violence is a concern for all administrators and other personnel working in schools. The FBI, in a 2000 report on school violence stated, "Although the risk of an actual shooting incident at any one school is very low, once a threat is made, having a fair, rational, and standardized method of evaluating and responding to threats is critically important." It is especially important that a school not deal with threats by simply kicking the problem out the door. Disciplinary action alone, unaccompanied by any effort to evaluate the threat or the student's intent, may actually exacerbate the danger. In this session, Dr. Ken Strong will discuss how the threat assessment process developed as a violence prevention procedure for schools.

Room:

Ryman 2

Session Title:

Presenter:

Session Synopsis:

Discipline and Students with Disabilities

Bill Wilson, J.D., Tennessee Department of Education

This workshop will cover disciplining of children under the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*. Topics will include suspensions, long term removals, changes of placement, manifestation determinations, weapons, drugs, serious bodily injury, isolation and restraint, law enforcement, and juvenile court petitions. The presenter will also allow time for participants to ask questions related to the topic at hand.

Room:

Ryman 3

Session Title:

Presenter:

Searches in Schools: Fourth and Fourteenth Amendment Considerations

Charles W. Cagle, J.D., Lewis, King, Krieg & Waldrop, P.C.

Session Synopsis: The focus of this presentation will revolve around student searches within the school setting. Fourth and Fourteenth ammendment issues will also be discussed during the session. Additionally, the presenter will talk about the confiscation of electronic devices during a search and the legal implications of doing so. The presenter will also allow time for questions from institute attendees.

Room: McKissack 1

Session Title: ***Student Hearings: Legal Procedures for the New Administrator***

Presenter: Randy Bennett, J.D., Tennessee School Boards Association

Session Synopsis: One of the more difficult tasks for new administrators is maintaining discipline among the student populations while respecting due process guaranteed to students under the law. This session will take a look at how to best conduct a student disciplinary hearing while maintaining the delicate balance between the needs of the district and the rights of the student. The presenter will also allow time for participants to ask questions related to how to conduct a hearing.

Room: McKissack 2

2:00PM-3:15PM Session III Breakouts (February 17th)

Session Title: ***The Power of Service-Learning: Transforming Students and Schools***

Presenter: Meredith Freeman, Volunteer Tennessee

Session Synopsis: Service-Learning is a teaching methodology that connects classroom curricula to meaningful service in the community, transforming schools and improving student discipline. When students and teachers are engaged in the educational process together, students improve grades and standard achievement test scores, improve their attendance, as well as increase positive lifestyle changes. Service learning develops leaders and empowers students to make a difference at school and in their communities.

In this workshop, participants will hear about real examples of Tennessee schools that have utilized service-learning to increase student grade point averages, reduce school absences and suspensions, and increase students' attitudes related to school connectedness.

Come find out why the, *The Education Commission of the States*, *Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development*, *High Schools That Work*, and *The National Dropout Prevention Network* have all recognized service-learning as an integral part of a complete and successful educational system.

Room: Robertson

Session Title: ***It Works If You Work It! LifeSkills Training***

Presenters: Kay Sands, UT Law Enforcement Innovation Center
Lori Ungurait, UT Law Enforcement Innovation Center

Session Synopsis: At your wits end? Tried everything? Are you concerned with the choices students are making that involve "high risk behaviors?" Would you be

willing to consider a researched-based (25 years of longitudinal studies) program recommended by the US Department of Education that teaches young people (middle school students) how to make healthy choices involving tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs, and violent acts? Currently used by classroom teachers (both single and team based approaches), school counselors, SROs and by afterschool providers, LifeSkills has continually been shown to be effective. Materials and staff training is available through grant funding, so come find out more about LifeSkills training.

Room:

Donelson

Session Title:

Closing the Opportunity, Information and Achievement Gaps of At-Risk Students

Presenter:

Nicole Cobb, Tennessee Department of Education

Session Synopsis:

Teachers and school counselors can position themselves at the heart and center of school improvement. This session will focus on our ethical obligation to acquire and apply new skills in leadership, advocacy, teaming, collaboration, and systemic change, while using critical school data to create a positive school climate. All these tools will be discussed within the context of social justice and working to close the opportunity, information and achievement gap of at-risk students.

Room:

Ryman 2

Session Title:

Preventing Sexual Harassment: Protecting Our Children and Ourselves

Presenter:

Lesley Farmer, J.D., Tennessee Department of Education

Session Synopsis:

Most school systems have developed policies and procedures for responding to faculty and staff incidents of sexual harassment. Few LEAs have strategies for dealing with student-to-student incidents. This session will provide participants with an overview of current case law related to sexual harassment, outline the responsibilities of schools and educators and identify prevention and intervention strategies to deal proactively with student-to-student sexual harassment. Participants will receive a trainer's guide and video to assist with training and implementation.

Room:

Ryman 3

Session Title:

Using the Law to Your Advantage: How Alternative Education Legislation Is a Tool for Building Student Success

Presenter:

Rich Haglund, J.D., State Board of Education

Session Synopsis:

This workshop will, in the context of the statutes governing alternative schools and the Alternative Education Program Model, address the following questions:

1. What is the purpose of alternative schools? Is the legislature's purpose different from yours?
2. Just how alternative can the learning environment be?
3. Have any statutes gotten in the way of your efforts to ensure student success?
4. What alternative school practices ought to become the norm?

Furthermore, participants will share examples of how they have used the law as a tool to produce student success, and identify additional alternatives.

Room:

McKissack 1

Session Title:

Student Discipline Data: An Overview and Update on District Reporting Requirements

Presenters:

James Witty, Tennessee Department of Education
Nancy Stetten, Ed.D., Tennessee Department of Education

Session Synopsis:

Over the past two sessions, the General Assembly has enacted several new reporting requirements relative to student discipline and serious incidents that occur at school. Improvements to our data collection systems have recently taken place to meet the new reporting requirements. This session will focus on the latest changes relative to student discipline data and provide an overview of the data collection process. Topics of conversation will include the following: suspension and expulsion, the school safety index, zero tolerance, student victimization, and tracking alternative education students. The presenters will allow time for participants to ask questions related to the topic at hand.

Room:

McKissack 2

3:30PM-4:45PM

Session IV Breakouts (February 17th)

Session Title:

The Power of Service-Learning: Transforming Students and Schools

Presenter:

Meredith Freeman, Volunteer Tennessee

Session Synopsis:

Service-Learning is a teaching methodology that connects classroom curricula to meaningful service in the community, transforming schools and improving student discipline. When students and teachers are engaged in the educational process together, students improve grades and standard achievement test scores, improve their attendance, as well as increase positive lifestyle changes. Service learning develops leaders and empowers students to make a difference at school and in their communities.

In this workshop, participants will hear about real examples of Tennessee schools that have utilized service-learning to increase student grade point averages, reduce school absences and suspensions, and increase students' attitudes related to school connectedness.

Come find out why the, *The Education Commission of the States*, *Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development*, *High Schools That Work*, and *The National Dropout Prevention Network* have all recognized service-learning as an integral part of a complete and successful educational system.

Room:

Robertson

Session Title:

It Works If You Work It! LifeSkills Training

Presenters:

Kay Sands, UT Law Enforcement Innovation Center

Session Synopsis:

Lori Ungurait, UT Law Enforcement Innovation Center
At your wits end? Tried everything? Are you concerned with the choices students are making that involve “high risk behaviors?” Would you be willing to consider a researched-based (25 years of longitudinal studies) program recommended by the US Department of Education that teaches young people (middle school students) how to make healthy choices involving tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs, and violent acts? Currently used by classroom teachers (both single and team based approaches), school counselors, SROs and by afterschool providers, LifeSkills has continually been shown to be effective. Materials and staff training is available through grant funding, so come find out more about LifeSkills training.
Room: Donelson

Session Title:

Closing the Opportunity, Information and Achievement Gaps of At-Risk Students

Presenter:

Nicole Cobb, Tennessee Department of Education

Session Synopsis:

Teachers and school counselors can position themselves at the heart and center of school improvement. This session will focus on our ethical obligation to acquire and apply new skills in leadership, advocacy, teaming, collaboration, and systemic change, while using critical school data to create a positive school climate. All these tools will be discussed within the context of social justice and working to close the opportunity, information and achievement gap of at-risk students.

Room:

Ryman 2

Session Title:

Creating Respectful School Communities Using Adventure Learning

Presenter:

Beth Wonson, Project Adventure

Session Synopsis:

This fun and interactive session will utilize aspects of adventure learning as a means to teach social and emotional skills development. The activities presented can be implemented within the classroom and are a component of a researched based approach to increasing academic achievement, attendance and pro-social behaviors. Not only will this session be informational and educational, but also enjoyable.

Room:

Ryman 3

Session Title:

Using the Law to Your Advantage: How Alternative Education Legislation Is a Tool for Building Student Success

Presenter:

Rich Haglund, J.D., State Board of Education

Session Synopsis:

This workshop will, in the context of the statutes governing alternative schools and the Alternative Education Program Model, address the following questions:

1. What is the purpose of alternative schools? Is the legislature's purpose different from yours?
2. Just how alternative can the learning environment be?
3. Have any statutes gotten in the way of your efforts to ensure student success?
4. What alternative school practices ought to become the norm?

Furthermore, participants will share examples of how they have used the law as a tool to produce student success, and identify additional alternatives.

Room: McKissack 1

Session Title: ***How to Implement SWPBS in an Urban School District***

Presenters: Ginny Stohl, Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

Holley Roberts, Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

Dr. Ron Roberts, Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

Session Synopsis:

The presentation will familiarize attendees with the basic principles of School Wide Positive Behavior Support and its application in an urban setting. Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools currently has 4 schools fully implementing this approach based on teaching and prevention, with 5 additional schools about to begin implementation. The current status of those schools will be shared. Attendees will learn how our responses to behavior problems in the schools (high rates of reactive strategies) reveal our assumptions about behavior. Participants will learn more proactive and effective strategies for maintaining safe and effective learning environment by using research-based practices and data for decision-making.

Room: McKissack 2

SDAE

(TENTATIVE) Breakout Schedule (February 18th)

Strand: Alternative Education
Conference Theme: It's All Connected

10:00AM-11:15AM Session V Breakouts (February 18th)

Session Title: ***An Alternative Setting within a Juvenile Court***
Presenter: Judith Carré, Williamson County Juvenile Services
Alternative Learning Center
Session Synopsis: An alternative setting within the juvenile court allows both school and court personnel easy access to students and information. With teachers and YSOs available, the “whole student” is served. Services that would not normally be available to students in a homogeneous school setting are available, such as family support, evaluation and disciplinary support. Within a comprehensive setting, the seriousness of the infraction can be recognized, and early intervention is possible. This workshop will take a closer look at an alternative education program within the setting of a juvenile court.
Room: Robertson

Session Title: ***Setting up English Language Learners for Success in an Alternative Education Environment***
Presenter: Jan Lanier, Tennessee Department of Education
Session Synopsis: ELL students who are experiencing a need for alternative education settings require successful experiences to change the habits that are prohibiting them from success. Discipline problems are common when students feel that success is outside of their grasp. This population of students need a rigorous and active setting to help them become fluent in reading, writing, listening and speaking English. This session will provide participants with instructional strategies for working with ELL students within the context of an alternative education program.
Room: Donelson

Session Title: ***“Leave it All on the Court” Looking at Attendance, Attitude, and Academics through Best Practices***
Presenters: Kay Davenport, Smyrna West Alternative School
Debora Pack, Smyrna West Alternative School
Session Synopsis: The presenters will share the evolution of policy that drives structure, expectations, and success at Smyrna West Alternative School. Through a power point presentation, the speakers will show how a culture of student accomplishment and staff growth is cultivated.

Smyrna West operates on a continuum based on three stages. The beginning is punitive and re-orientates students to county and school policies. Mid-program status is rehabilitative, and the final stage is a program of goal setting and transition back into the school of origin.

This workshop presents strategies, concepts, and procedures practiced within a controlled environment that improves the learning experience. We will discuss school-wide management of expectations for student and parent involvement, and partnerships with community/district/state resources.

Discussion will also focus on Professional Learning Communities (PLC). Our PLC is a collaborative between our students' school of origin and the SWA faculty and staff. This collaboration works to arm students with the skills necessary to transition back into their home schools.

Group members will also be asked to share their best practices and accomplishments from their own programs.

Room: Ryman 2

Session Title: ***They Were Who We Thought They Were- Working with Our At-Risks Today!***

Presenter: Rick Miller, Tennessee Alternative Educators Association & M.A.P. Academy

Session Synopsis: Students in the alternative setting are craving our attention, direction and support. During this session the presenter will cover 5 strategies/tips on how to engage the at-risk student. Furthermore, the speaker will discuss tips on how to engage the school of origin when meeting the various social and emotional needs of the alternative education learner.

Room: Ryman 3

Session Title: ***Creating Respectful School Communities Using Adventure Learning***

Presenter: Beth Wonson, Project Adventure

Session Synopsis: This fun and interactive session will utilize aspects of adventure learning as a means to teach social and emotional skills development. The activities presented can be implemented within the classroom and are a component of a researched based approach to increasing academic achievement, attendance and pro-social behaviors. Not only will this session be informational and educational, but also enjoyable.

Room: McKissack 1

Session Title: ***The Transition Process from the Alternative to Traditional School Community***

Presenter: Cheryl Cathey, Memphis City Schools

As a result of Senate Bill 2157, the General Assembly has mandated that alternative schools develop and implement formal transition plans for students entering into an alternative education setting. This workshop will provide a functional model of a strategic process for transitioning alternative students to and from their traditional school environment. An overview of the School Reentry packet will be discussed which includes a formal transition plan. Other processes to improve communication between alternative and traditional schools will also be introduced for discussion.

Room: McKissack 2

1:00PM-2:15PM

Session VI Breakouts (February 18th)

Session Title:

An Alternative Setting within a Juvenile Court

Presenter:

Judith Carré, Williamson County Juvenile Services
Alternative Learning Center

Session Synopsis:

An alternative setting within the juvenile court allows both school and court personnel easy access to students and information. With teachers and YSOs available, the “whole student” is served. Services that would not normally be available to students in a homogeneous school setting are available, such as family support, evaluation and disciplinary support. Within a comprehensive setting, the seriousness of the infraction can be recognized, and early intervention is possible. This workshop will take a closer look at an alternative education program within the setting of a juvenile court.

Room:

Robertson

Session Title:

Setting up English Language Learners for Success in an Alternative Education Environment

Presenter:

Jan Lanier, Tennessee Department of Education

Session Synopsis:

ELL students who are experiencing a need for alternative education settings require successful experiences to change the habits that are prohibiting them from success. Discipline problems are common when students feel that success is outside of their grasp. This population of students need a rigorous and active setting to help them become fluent in reading, writing, listening and speaking English. This session will provide participants with instructional strategies for working with ELL students within the context of an alternative education program.

Room:

Donelson

Session Title:

Effective Afterschool Programming in AE-Service Learning is the Key

Presenters:

Karen Willey, New Directions Academy
Michelle Street, New Directions Academy
David Poppendorf, New Directions Academy
Marvene Fultz, New Directions Academy

Session Synopsis:

Frequently, educational programming for at-risk youth takes place, Monday through Friday from 8:00-3:00. This presentation examines the effectiveness of extending the learning day through afterschool programming, with service learning at its core. At-risk students who attend NDA gain not only academic skills, but more importantly a sense of self worth that increases their confidence. NDA has maintained statistics on the positive aspects of incorporating a service learning program, both during the school day and in an afterschool program. These statistics as well as specific activities that incorporate the four (4) aspects of true service learning will be discussed.

Room:

Ryman 2

Session Title:

Specific Ways to Help Struggling Readers in the Alternative Education Setting

Presenter:

James Herman, Tennessee Department of Education

Session Synopsis: What are the research-based methods to use when teaching struggling readers at the secondary level? This presentation will address the causes of poor reading at the secondary level and the characteristics of the secondary struggling reader. We will discuss how to engage the secondary struggling reader in the reading process by using specific research-based strategies. These strategies will help struggling students in your alternative education program in the areas of decoding, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension.

Room: Ryman 3

Session Title: ***Fostering Connection ... School Climate and Bullying Prevention***

Presenter: Rodger Dinwiddie, STARS Nashville

Session Synopsis: Students are more likely to succeed when they feel connected to school. School connection is the belief by students that adults in the school care about their learning as well as about them as individuals. This session will address the following issues surrounding school climate and bullying prevention:

- What is social and emotional learning (SEL)?
- What are best practices in establishing a positive school climate and why utilize SEL?
- What are the components of positive school climate?
- What does research tell us about school climate and connectedness?
- What are the effects of student victimization on school climate?
- What does not work in school climate improvement?
- What works in school climate improvement?

Furthermore, the presenter will steer participants to additional resources aimed at fostering school connection, improving school climate, and preventing bullying.

Room: McKissack 1

Session Title: ***Moving Beyond "Sink or Swim;" How to Successfully Transition Students To and From Alternative Education Programs***

Presenter: Mark Claypool, President and CEO of Ombudsman Educational Services

Session Synopsis: The presentation will focus on best practices in transition services for students enrolled in alternative education programs. Topics covered will include:

1. The importance of planning for transition beginning from the point of initial placement until the transition plan is completed.
2. Managing expectations of and about the next environment
3. Practical support services including case management, behavioral support, tutoring and independent living skills instruction
4. Realistic goal setting
5. Ongoing assessment of behavior, attendance and academic progress
6. Pitfalls and barriers to successful transition -- and how to overcome them

Room: McKissack 2

2:30PM-3:45PM

Session VII Breakout (February 18th)

Session Title:

The Future of AE in Tennessee: A Panel Discussion with the Governor's Advisory Council for Alternative Education

Presenter:

Joyce Hale, Advisory Council for Alternative Education

Session Synopsis:

The Governor's Advisory Council for Alternative Education has made major strides in a short period of time, but much is still left to be done. The Council has worked over the past year to improve alternative education in Tennessee. This session will facilitate a discussion between board members and stakeholders around the future of alternative education in our state. Furthermore, this will allow stakeholders to weigh in on our current successes, and help identify and prioritize our critical challenges. The format of the session will primarily be Q & A and be facilitated by current board member Joyce Hale.

Room:

Robertson

Session Title:

2009: The Year of Alternatives

Presenter:

James V. Witty, Tennessee Department of Education

Session Synopsis:

The Tennessee Department of Education has diligently worked to support and promote alternatives to suspension and expulsion for students over the past several years. With the opening of the new year, 2009 is proving to be the year for alternative education. Participants will be provided with an update on the status of alternative education in Tennessee. Changes and new requirements for the 2009-2010 school year will also be discussed. Finally, current national trends/updates will be shared with participants.

Room:

Donelson

Session Title:

Effective Afterschool Programming in AE-Service Learning is the Key

Presenters:

Karen Willey, New Directions Academy

Michelle Street, New Directions Academy

David Poppendorf, New Directions Academy

Marvene Fultz, New Directions Academy

Session Synopsis:

Frequently, educational programming for at-risk youth takes place, Monday through Friday from 8:00-3:00. This presentation examines the effectiveness of extending the learning day through afterschool programming, with service learning at its core. At-risk students who attend NDA gain not only academic skills, but more importantly a sense of self worth that increases their confidence. NDA has maintained statistics on the positive aspects of incorporating a service learning program, both during the school day and in an afterschool program. These statistics as well as specific activities that incorporate the four (4) aspects of true service learning will be discussed.

Room:

Ryman 2

Session Title:

Specific Ways to Help Struggling Readers in the Alternative Education Setting

Presenter:

James Herman, Tennessee Department of Education

Session Synopsis: What are the research-based methods to use when teaching struggling readers at the secondary level? This presentation will address the causes of poor reading at the secondary level and the characteristics of the secondary struggling reader. We will discuss how to engage the secondary struggling reader in the reading process by using specific research-based strategies. These strategies will help struggling students in your alternative education program in the areas of decoding, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension.

Room: Ryman 3

Session Title: ***Fostering Connection ... School Climate and Bullying Prevention***

Presenter: Rodger Dinwiddie, STARS Nashville

Session Synopsis: Students are more likely to succeed when they feel connected to school. School connection is the belief by students that adults in the school care about their learning as well as about them as individuals. This session will address the following issues surrounding school climate and bullying prevention:

- What is social and emotional learning (SEL)?
- What are best practices in establishing a positive school climate and why utilize SEL?
- What are the components of positive school climate?
- What does research tell us about school climate and connectedness?
- What are the effects of student victimization on school climate?
- What does not work in school climate improvement?
- What works in school climate improvement?

Furthermore, the presenter will steer participants to additional resources aimed at fostering school connection, improving school climate, and preventing bullying.

Room: McKissack 1

Session Title: ***Moving Beyond "Sink or Swim;" How to Successfully Transition Students To and From Alternative Education Programs***

Presenter: Mark Claypool, President and CEO of Ombudsman Educational Services

Session Synopsis: The presentation will focus on best practices in transition services for students enrolled in alternative education programs. Topics covered will include:

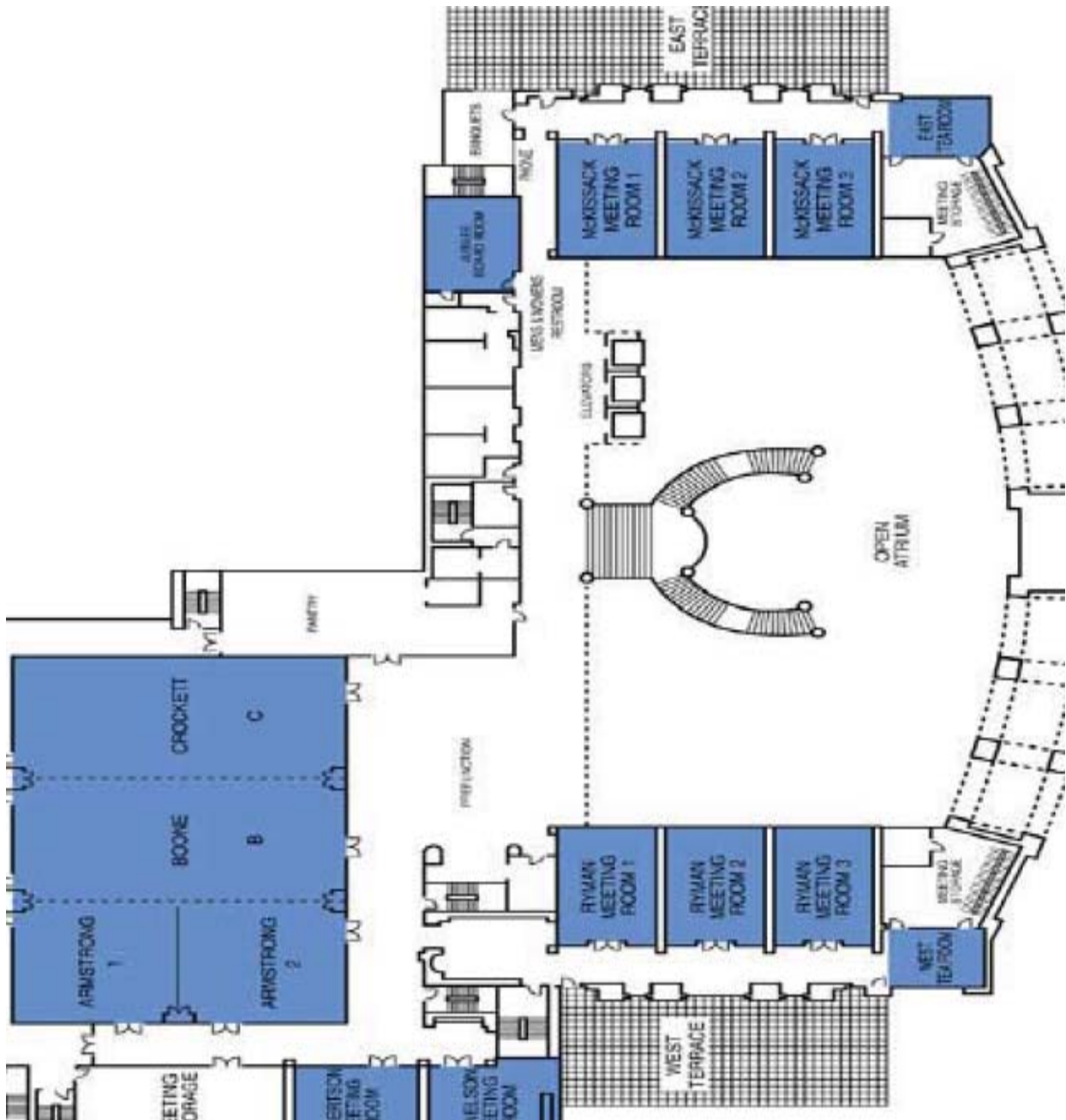
1. The importance of planning for transition beginning from the point of initial placement until the transition plan is completed.
2. Managing expectations of and about the next environment
3. Practical support services including case management, behavioral support, tutoring and independent living skills instruction
4. Realistic goal setting
5. Ongoing assessment of behavior, attendance and academic progress
6. Pitfalls and barriers to successful transition -- and how to overcome them

Room: McKissack 2



Breakout Rooms at the Hilton

Conference Theme: It's All Connected



**Note that Armstrong 1 and 2, Boone B, and Crockett C will serve as the Volunteer Ballroom for SDAE's general sessions.*

SDAE Breakout Sessions (Day One)

Session Title	Presenter(s)	Room
10:00AM-11:15AM Session I Breakouts (February 17th)		
Preventing Sexual Harassment: Protecting Our Children and Ourselves	Lesley Farmer	Robertson
An Overview of School-Wide Positive Behavior Support	Sheri Keel	Donelson
Assessing Student Threats of Violence	Dr. Ken Strong	Ryman 2
Discipline and Students with Disabilities	Bill Wilson	Ryman 3
Searches in Schools: Fourth and Fourteenth Amendment Considerations	Charles W. Cagle	McKissack 1
Student Hearings: Legal Procedures for the New Administrator	Randy Bennett	McKissack 2
12:30PM-1:45PM Session II Breakouts (February 17th)		
Children & Adolescents with Sexual Behavior Problems: Risks vs. Myths	Dr. Tarah M. Kuhn	Robertson
An Overview of School-Wide Positive Behavior Support	Sheri Keel	Donelson
Assessing Student Threats of Violence	Dr. Ken Strong	Ryman 2
Discipline and Students with Disabilities	Bill Wilson	Ryman 3
Searches in Schools: Fourth and Fourteenth Amendment Considerations	Charles W. Cagle	McKissack 1
Student Hearings: Legal Procedures for the New Administrator	Randy Bennett	McKissack 2
2:00PM-3:15PM Session III Breakouts (February 17th)		
The Power of Service-Learning: Transforming Students and Schools	Meredith Freeman	Robertson
It Works If You Work It! LifeSkills Training	Kay Sands	
	Lori Ungurait	Donelson
Closing the Opportunity, Information and Achievement Gaps of At-Risk Students	Nicole Cobb	Ryman 2
Preventing Sexual Harassment: Protecting Our Children and Ourselves	Lesley Farmer	Ryman 3
Using the Law to Your Advantage: How Alternative Education Legislation Is a Tool for Building Student Success	Rich Haglund	McKissack 1
Student Discipline Data: An Overview and Update on District Reporting Requirements	James Witty	
	Dr. Nancy Stetten	McKissack 2
3:30PM-4:45PM Session IV Breakouts (February 17th)		
The Power of Service-Learning: Transforming Students and Schools	Meredith Freeman	Robertson
It Works If You Work It! LifeSkills Training	Kay Sands	
	Lori Ungurait	Donelson
Closing the Opportunity, Information and Achievement Gaps of At-Risk Students	Nicole Cobb	Ryman 2
Creating Respectful School Communities Using Adventure Learning	Beth Wonson	Ryman 3
Using the Law to Your Advantage: How Alternative Education Legislation Is a Tool for Building Student Success	Rich Haglund	McKissack 1
How to Implement SWPBS in an Urban School District	Ginny Stohl	
	Holley Roberts	
	Dr. Ron Roberts	McKissack 2

Breakout Sessions (Day Two)

Session Title	Presenter(s)	Room
10:00AM-11:15AM Session V Breakouts (February 18th)		
An Alternative Setting within a Juvenile Court	Judith Carré	Robertson
Setting up English Language Learners for Success in an Alternative Education Environment	Jan Lanier	Donelson
"Leave it All on the Court" Looking at Attendance, Attitude, and Academics through Best Practices	Kay Davenport	Ryman 2
	Debora Pack	
They Were Who We Thought They Were- Working with Our At-Risks Today!	Rick Miller	Ryman 3
Creating Respectful School Communities Using Adventure Learning	Beth Wonson	McKissack 1
The Transition Process from the Alternative to Traditional School Community	Cheryl Cathey	McKissack 2
1:00PM-2:15PM Session VI Breakouts (February 18th)		
An Alternative Setting within a Juvenile Court	Judith Carré	Robertson
Setting up English Language Learners for Success in an Alternative Education Environment	Jan Lanier	Donelson
Effective Afterschool Programming in AE-Service Learning is the Key	Karen Willey Michelle Street David Poppendorf Marvene Fultz	Ryman 2
Specific Ways to Help Struggling Readers in the Alternative Education Setting	James Herman	Ryman 3
Fostering Connection ... School Climate and Bullying Prevention	Rodger Dinwiddie	McKissack 1
Moving Beyond "Sink or Swim;" How to Successfully Transition Students To and From Alternative Education Programs	Mark Claypool	McKissack 2
2:30PM-3:45PM Session VII Breakout (February 18th)		
The Future of AE in Tennessee: A Panel Discussion with the Governor's Advisory Council for Alternative Education	Joyce Hale	Robertson
2009: The Year of Alternatives	James V. Witty	Donelson
Effective Afterschool Programming in AE-Service Learning is the Key	Karen Willey Michelle Street David Poppendorf Marvene Fultz	Ryman 2
Specific Ways to Help Struggling Readers in the Alternative Education Setting	James Herman	Ryman 3
Fostering Connection ... School Climate and Bullying Prevention	Rodger Dinwiddie	McKissack 1
Moving Beyond "Sink or Swim;" How to Successfully Transition Students To and From Alternative Education Programs	Mark Claypool	McKissack 2